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PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION FOR EDUCATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY

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VOLUME TWO SUMMER EDITION 2011

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PETE&C 2012



Believe it or not, PETE&C 2012 is already right around the corner! Continuing in 2012 will be the well-received Model Lesson presentations. In these sessions, part of the attendees act as students in a classroom and experience a lesson as it occurs. The rest of the attendees watch sort of like a traditional presentation. Model Lessons should be presented by a team of two presenters. Consider submitting a Model Lesson presentation as part of the PETE&C RFP process, including the phrase "Model Lesson" as part of the title.

With all this in mind, mark your calendars that General Session proposals are due on October 10, 2011, at midnight. Additionally, the programming committee is looking for people to help review proposals. You can submit your presentation proposal or sign up to review proposals at the PETE&C website, <http://peteandc.org/>

Calling all K-12 teachers in Pennsylvania

Do your students:

- collaborate electronically with experts?
- visit museums without leaving the classroom?
- travel to the moon and back?
- create as well as consume knowledge?

If yes, then showcase their talents while demonstrating the value of technology in the classroom at the

**Pennsylvania Educational Technology Expo
and Conference - PETE & C**



PROFESSIONAL PARTNER UPDATES

ISTE MOMENTS

The opening session was impressive with so many attending on their own dime. This just goes to show how many teachers are committed to learning and growing in our tight economic times.

- Jeff Rothenberger (@jsrothenberger)

This is my first ISTE conference, and it is the best conference that I have been to in thirty years!

- Tom Baileys

I presented a poster session on Rethinking the Math Classroom. For once, I was actually a bit nervous, and I ended up humbled by the number of teachers from around the world that came to find out what I had to say about how I have flipped my classroom and am continuing to include more real world connections to the math my students learn.

- Jimbo Lamb (@misterlamb)

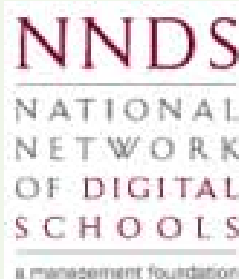
My ISTE experience included taking notes, tweeting a bit, and walking the Constitution Center from one end to the other. I played with gadgets, learned from gurus, and overdosed on Google. I wrestled with the wi-fi, was wowed by Web 2.0, and witnessed a whole new world of mobile learning. It will take me a while to unpack (and organize) it all. My favorite sessions were the ones on Web 2.0 Tools. I particularly liked Tammy Worcester's creatively organized Top 20 List and Brandon Lutz's high-speed tour of 60 in 60. My ISTE experience was app-solutely amazing!

- Rita Sorrentino (@ritaas)

I was a volunteer at the gaming room. I had planned on starting a club in my school this fall after seeing the way students took to playing the computer game "Age of Empires." These are some of the games I found which motivate students to come to school.

- Robert Schlichtmann

Thank you to our
sponsors from the
past year:



UPDATES FROM AROUND THE PAECT REGIONS

SW PAECT UPDATE

TRETC 2011

- Kevin B. Conner



For the past decade, TRETC, the Three Rivers Educational Technology Conference, has provided an opportunity for classroom teachers, library/media specialists, technology directors and students to learn with and from one another. The Regional Learning Alliance at Cranberry Woods in Cranberry Township this year provides the venue for many sessions and a dedicated vendor exhibit area. Refreshments and food are provided as part of the registration fee for the day-long event.

This year's conference will occur on Wednesday, November 16, 2011. Plans are being finalized for an optional pre-conference session that will occur on Tuesday the 15th. Why would you want to attend TRETC? This conference has served as a regional option for many educators who will not have the opportunity to participate in the statewide PETE&C conference. Many of the folks who present at TRETC also offer sessions at PETE&C or even the national conference, ISTE. Another reason to attend is to build contacts and relationships that extend after the conference through the use of social media, email or even face-to-face meetings. TRETC offers an excellent way for a novice to receive advice on implementing an innovative tool or approach in their classroom because chosen presenters have practical experience.

Organized by an all-volunteer committee with logistical support from the Pittsburgh Technology Council, TRETC remains one of the best professional development opportunities for educators in Southwestern PA. Be sure to go to the TRETC website (www.tretc.org) for details on registration, program schedule and more. YOU are encouraged to share your experience by becoming a presenter. A simple Google form will allow you to enter your proposal for a session. If you haven't attended before, be sure to sign up for this year's conference. It truly gets better and better each year.



UPDATES FROM AROUND THE REGION

SOUTH CENTRAL UPDATE

-Chris Champion

Hello everyone!

I hope your Summer is either productive or really unproductive (depending on what you like to do). I thought before we all had to go back to a building full of kids, we'd take some time to reconnect, hang out, and share some food. With that in mind, Jimbo Lamb (Annville-Cleona H.S.) and I have planned a MeetUp at the Batdorf Lounge on Main Street in Annville from 7 to 10 pm on August 20 (Saturday).

We've reserved their "upstairs" room which overlooks the bar. Food and non-alcoholic beverages will be provided free of charge to members and their guest(s). If you do bring a guest, I'll have some information about PAECT membership with me and a computer to sign up. There will be prizes as well - you must be a current or new member to win.

If you would like to join us (and we'd love for you to do so) please fill out this Google Form:

<http://tinyurl.com/paectsc>

There is only a place for your name and email, so if you plan to bring a guest, please have them also fill out the form so I know the names of all who are coming.

I need to have a firm count by August 11. After that I can only add individual people who contact me directly. The Association pays for the number of people we say are coming when I give them my final count after the 11th (the restaurant is always happy to take more customers, but if we have fewer than have registered, we don't get a break).

So please do join us.

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READER SUBMISSIONS

EDCAMP HARRISBURG

- by Chris Champion



Have you ever been to an “unconference”? It’s a conference where at the beginning of the day no agenda has been set, but before the first session slot begins, the entire schedule is filled with presentations from attendees.

edcamp is an unconference for educators. It is based on the “barcamp” model (which has nothing to do with drinking). barcamp gets its name from the second half of the phrase “foo-bar.” “Foo Camp” was an industry technology conference that you had to be invited to attend. barcamp was the alternative - the “everyone” in technology conference. So like barcamp, edcamp is a conference for everyone. You won’t find pushy vendors, keynotes or juried speakers. Anyone can present. Even you.

The edcamp movement is quickly spreading all over the United States. The concept is simple. edcamps are not your typical education conference. edcamps are run by local teachers who want to informally spark discussion and learn new ideas from one another. There are so many benefits to attending: free admission, meet other teachers in your area, networking, a flexible agenda, and so much more!

This unconference is for all involved in education: teachers, students, parents, professors, administrators and all who have a passion for education in today’s world.

edcamp Harrisburg is coming to Harrisburg University on November 12. Registration, as noted above, is free and is available via the edcamp Harrisburg website: <http://www.edcampharrisburg.org>. Follow edcamp Harrisburg on twitter: [@edcampHBC](https://twitter.com/edcampHBC)

GRANT FUNDING FOR TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



The Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Resources (TPS) provides assistance and grants up to \$20,000 through regional coordinators. Grants are available to educational organizations to incorporate TPS materials and methods into existing professional development or educational programs for pre- or in-service teachers, librarians, and media specialists.

TPS helps teachers build students’ literacy, critical thinking skills, and content knowledge using Library of Congress’ collections of 19 million digitized primary sources.

Contact Eastern Region Coordinator Barbara Kirby with questions: 724-852-3388
On the web: <http://tps.waynesburg.edu/region> and <http://www.loc.gov/teachers>

TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM

by Nicole Bloise

A group of 4th Grade students at Willow Lane Elementary School in Macungie worked on a project called the Willow Lane Walk of Fame. For this assignment, students in Ross Cooper's, Laurie Mott's and Julia Dweck's classes worked with MacBooks to create movie websites using iWeb.

Fourth Graders Joey Collura and Alex He chose the movie Ant Bully for their website. First they created a page that contained a summary of the movie. Next they provided a detailed analysis of the main characters in the film. Joey and Alex then each created a movie review for Ant Bully written in the eyes of a movie guru. Joey and Alex said they couldn't wait for the next part of the assignment, which was to create a movie trailer. Using iPhoto and iMovie, the students created and displayed a trailer for the sequel of their feature film.

During this project, the students became familiar with MacBooks, iMovie, iPhoto, iWeb, Google Docs and many more useful programs. Click on the following link to check out the projects—<http://www.eastpennsd.org/teacherpages/cooperos/>.

INNOVATION ON A SHOESTRING BUDGET

Continuing a series started in May
(see that article here: <http://paect.org/Newsletter%20May%2011.pdf>),
here's one more idea for being innovative when budgets are tight.

Rotating Technologies - Doing more with less requires greater organization. Getting an accurate account of resources and how each is used can help fill some needs. This can be much more difficult than it sounds.

How I see it: In phase 1, ask team members to list any unused or limited use technologies for redistribution. This gives members a chance to be a willing part of the solution. In phase 2, ask for a list of any technologies that could be shared and any details of how the resources could be shared. This could be a good opportunity to ask the team member sharing to mentor others on the integration of the technology.

This is only one idea. We would love to hear your ideas, so we can share them in the Fall PAECT Newsletter. [Click here](#), or go to PAECT.org and click on Share Your Innovations on a Shoestring Budget. We look forward to learning from you.

ADMINISTRATOR FEATURE:

Jarrin Sperry

Superintendent of the Conneaut School District

Jarrin Sperry is the Superintendent of the Conneaut School District in Northwestern PA. Sperry's district has a focus on improving education by integrating technology in both face-to-face and online instruction. Along with Conneaut's Technology Integrator Herb Bossard and a team of teachers, the district recently created - from scratch - a cyber school for the district's students. Sperry and Bossard coordinated with a team of teachers to create their own curriculum. Initially the team looked at purchasing "off the rack" curriculum, integrating the district's existing on-line learning tool, and calling it their own, but it turned out that it didn't fit the needs of the students nor of the school.



Around the same time that Sperry's team was looking to build a cyber school, their filter provider LightSpeed introduced "My Big Campus." It was the tool the Conneaut team needed to create "Conneaut Cyber School." That school opens for new students this Fall.

Jarrin Sperry is a Corry, PA, native. Son of a mechanic, Sperry grew up tinkering with technology and computer games. He recalls at nine years old tearing apart an Intellivision game console to try to figure out how it worked. Later in college, Sperry found an affinity for computers and their application to teaching students. Sperry carried this affinity with him as a teacher and principal, and it has guided his decision making at Conneaut School District.



TEACHER FEATURE:

EAST PENN SCHOOL DISTRICT TEACHER NAMED ADE CLASS OF 2011

-by Nicole Bloise

Ross Cooper, 4th Grade Teacher at Willow Lane Elementary School in Macungie, was named to the Apple Distinguished Educator (ADE) Class of 2011. As an ADE, Ross joins a select group of 1,700 education professionals

worldwide who are passionately committed to the promise of educational technology to improve teaching and learning.



Apple Distinguished Educator Ross Cooper is pictured center. He is flanked by East Penn SD Superintendent, Dr. Tom Seidenberger (left) and Board President, Charles Ballard (right).

His formal role began this summer with an orientation at the ADE Summer Institute in July where he participated in an exciting week of professional development, content creation and collaboration. This year's orientation was held at Arizona State University's Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

To view the video portion of Ross' ADE entry, please click on the link that follows: http://www.eastpennsd.org/teacherpages/cooperos/_ADE.html

PAECT Web Tools:

Check out these three fab web tools and start using them!

SIDEVIBE: [HTTP://WWW.SIDEVIBE.COM/](http://www.sidevibe.com/) > > > > > > > > > > > >

What is it? SideVibe offers you turbocharged Web Questing, placing student online discussion and activities in direct context with Web content. SideVibe makes is very easy for teachers to keep students on task by a companion tool right on top of a web sites.

Where to use it? All content areas where teachers would have students surf the internet to find information and interact through discussion.



SCRIBBLE: [HTTP://WWW.SCRIBBLE.COM/](http://www.scribble.com/) > > > > > > > > > > > >

What is it? Scribble allows users to save and annotate on top of existing websites. Users can then save and share those changes with others in their library via a web link.

Where to use it? Teachers can use this to highlight important parts of web articles and online textbooks. Students can do research with ease by saving viewed web pages and annotating the best parts of their research for future use.



PUFFIN: [HTTP://TINYURL.COM/PUFFINWEB](http://tinyurl.com/puffinweb) > > > > > > > > > > > > > >

What is it? A fast web browser app for ipod, iphone and ipad that will allow you to use and see flash.

Where to use it? Use this browser to view flash based sites like Clogster, Pearltrees and other flash based sites on your Apple devices.



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